



## COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

January 19, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Room C, Audrey P Beck Building

Present: Antonia Moran (Chair), Meredith Lindsey, Bill Ryan  
Also Attending: Council member Denise Keane, Ethic Board members Lena Barry, Nancy Cox, Saul Nesselroth, Mike Sikoski, Nora Stevens and Assistant to the Town Manager Maria Capriola as staff to the Board, Town Manager Matt Hart  
Chair Antonia Moran called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Long, Chair of the Housing Authority, asked the Committee to reappoint William Simenson as a Commissioner to the Housing Authority noting his excellent work and value as a member. Mr. Long spoke in support of the Committee's stated efforts to expand the volunteer base and work with the chairs to provide timely appointments.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Lindsey moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2009 meeting as presented. Motion passed.

### NEW BUSINESS

Chair Moran welcomed members of the Ethics Board and opened the floor for discussion on the proposed vetting process for Ethics Board members. Nancy Cox, Chair of the Ethics Board, stated the Board is not committed to the proposed process but the majority of members concur that some vetting procedure would be advantageous. Committee and Board members discussed the current appointment process and the value and usefulness of a formalized vetting process. Ethic Board members spoke to the role of a professional staff person assisting them with the administrative aspects of Board's work and the Town Attorney's assistance with legal matters. Those present also discussed the role of ethics training for present and future members. Committee on Committee members discussed the Committee's role with regards to staffing issues.

Committee members discussed appropriate bottom line requirements for volunteers who wish to be appointed to a committee including asking them why

they would like to serve and asking them to attend a couple of meetings. After the committee review process is completed the Committee will undertake these questions as part of the establishment of bylaws for the Committee on Committees.

The following recommendations for committee appointments will be presented at the January 25<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting:

Richard Long and William Simonsen	Housing Authority
Mary Feathers	School Building Committee
Paul Aho	Windham Regional Transit District
Michael Collins and Cristina Colon-Semenza	Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities
Scott Lehman	Arts Advisory Committee
Alan Cyr, Charles Galgowski William Palmer, Kathleen Paterson, Carolyn Stearns Larry Lombard	Agricultural Committee
Stephen Lowry, James Morrow, Vicky Wetherell Kenneth Feathers, Michael Allison	Open Space Committee
Audrey Barberet, George Cole, Richard Pellegrine, Wunderley Stauder, Susanna Thomas	Public Safety Committee

The following recommendations will be made if Committee members verify with the volunteer that they are willing to serve and a vacancy exist:

Meg Reich Advisory Committee (water)	Four Corners Sewer and Water
Jason Andrew Mc Carey member)	Historic District Commission (full member)
Jane Reinhardt	Cemetery Committee
Bruce Clouette, Nancy Silander	Town/University Relations
Denise Houman, John DeWolf with Disabilities	Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities

Members agreed to contact various committee chairs and volunteers to establish openings, review possible appointments and to clarify current appointments.

By consensus the Committee agreed to interpret the "Ordinarily ten year limit" as a way to refresh the committees without a strict interpretation of the limits where it would be harmful to the committees or in cases where specific representation or expertise is beneficial to said committees. The Committee also agreed to distribute a listing of the openings to current committee members via e-mail, contact other volunteer organizations with a list of openings and to advertise 5 -7 openings using various available media.

By consensus the Committee agreed to work collaboratively with committee chairs in the appointment of members.

Members discussed the concept of reestablishing the Social Services Advisory Committee to serve as the umbrella committee with sub committees representing seniors, persons with disabilities and young people. Also discussed was the combining of the Arts Advisory Committee and the Beautification Committee. Both of these items will be future agenda items.

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The following items will be on the agenda of the February 16, 2010 meeting:

Review of Committees Follow Up

Committee Appointments

Discussion of the Evaluation of Advisory Committee Structure including possible changes to the Social Service Advisory Committee and Arts

Advisory/Beautification Committee

Strategies to Announce and Advertise Vacancies

Board of Ethics Vetting Procedure

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, spoke to his concerns regarding the proposed vetting process.

Mr. Ryan moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Lindsey the motion passed.

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk